

# ROV Dive Summary, EX-22-06, Dive 05 August 25, 2022

## **General Location Map**



### **Dive Information**

Site Name	Dive 05 - Clipper Endeavor
General Area Descriptor	Puerto Rico and the USVI
Science Team Leads	Joana Xavier (Biology), Deb Glickson (Geology)
Expedition	Sam Candio
Coordinator	
ROV Dive	Levi Unema
Supervisor	

Sample Data Manager	Megan Cromwell		
Mapping Lead	Thomas Morrow		
Dive Purpose	The primary objective of this dive was to ground truth two of the four sonar anomalies possibilitied as the Clipper Endeavor. If identified, we would then characterize the site.		
Was the dive restricted for Underwater Cultural Heritage?	No		
ROV Dive Summary Data	Dive Summary: EX2206_DIVE05		
Summary Data	Dive Type: Normal		
	In Water: 2022-08-25T12:30:51.448178		
	Distance Traveled: 1615.2 m		



#### Dive Description This UCH dive was an attempt to find the Clipper Endeavor, a large commercial airliner that crashed into the sea in 1952 off San Juan after losing two engines almost immediately after take-off. We were provided 4 sonar targets - of those, we were able to dive on 2, as the other 2 were in a Marine Protected Area. We landed on soft sediment at 1302 UTC, about 50 m from the first target. We viewed a hatchetfish and a squid while setting up the ROV. The first target was a weathered, manganese (Mn) crusted, limestone outcrop. It had an abundance of long anemones, and also sponges. At 1406 UTC, 485m we came across more anemones on what looked like heavily sedimented fabric, and an anthropogenic object that looked like an open square (metal?). About 20 minutes later we reached the second target, which was slightly downslope. At that location, we encountered a large rocky outcrop that was covered in an aggregation of fishes (roughy, snapper, alfonsino). Interestingly, the number of fish there kicked up a lot of sediment. We imaged this for a few minutes while determining our next target. We then moved to another area of high reflectance on the backscatter imagery. It was not either of the last 2 targets previously identified, since these were both within the MPA. When we reached that target, it was another weathered, Mn crusted limestone outcrop. We saw several interesting biota in this area, including a Remaster seastar, many ctenophores in the water column, and several fishes (including the pink frogmouth). We kept moving west along this target, and encountered several areas of hardbottom (1700 UTC). While much of it was weathered limestone, there were some smoother, domed outcrops as well (limestone? Something else?). At 1721, we found a block of very weathered limestone had a lot more biodiversity, with zoanthids (growing on a coiled substrate, possibly Stichopathes coral skeletons), corals, brittle stars, a cutlassfish and a sea urchin with long spines (Calocidaris micans). At 1855 UTC, 605 m, we found several unusual echinoderms – a 4-rayed fitiaster with 8 rows of spines, a stalked crinoid with big, archaic, fingerlike structures (Holopus), and a white ophiuroid with a center center. At 1910 UTC, we saw two more pieces of fabric. At 1926 we reached a local high for the outcrop, standing about a meter above the rest of the outcrop. At 1956/614m, we encountered a live Stichopathes and a salp. Much of this dive was slightly downhill, which means that some of the imagery is a little "blue" as we were looking downward. Notable 3 Holopus crinoids Observations Community and Corals and Sponges - Present habitat Chemosynthetic Community - Absent observations High biodiversity Community - Absent Active Seep or Vent - Absent Extinct Seep or Vent - Absent Hydrates - Absent **CMECS** Feature Flat Slope Type(s)



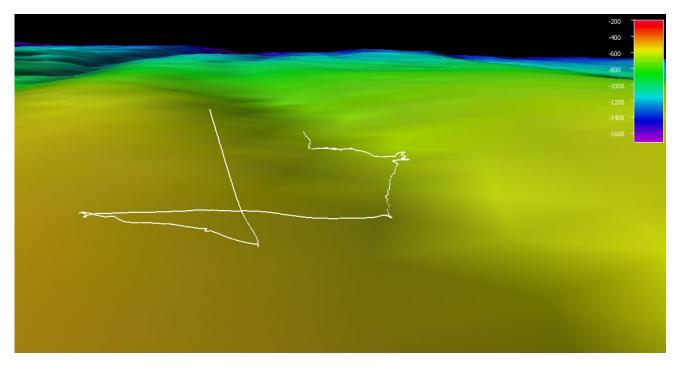
Rock Outcrop

SeaTube Link	https://data.oceannetworks.ca/SeaTubeV3?resourceTypeId=600&resourceId=2693
(science	
annotation	
system)	

## **Equipment Deployed**

ROV	Deep Discoverer
Camera Platform	Seirios
ROV Measurements	The following ROV measurements, data streams and equipment are used on each ROV deployment: CTD, depth, scanning sonar, USBL position, altitude, heading, attitude, high-resolution cameras, low resolution cameras, manipulator arms, suction sampler, sample drawers and thrusters. The section below notes if any of these sensors were malfunctioning or not operational
Equipment	None
Malfunctions	

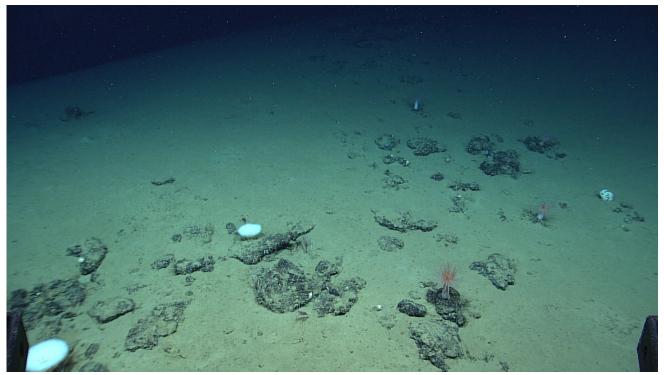
## **Close-up Map of Main Dive Site**



Smoothed ROV dive track in white on a 100 m resolution bathymetric surface, 1x vertical exaggeration, depth in meters.



## **Representative Photos of the Dive**



A rocky outcrop on the seafloor at the first target.

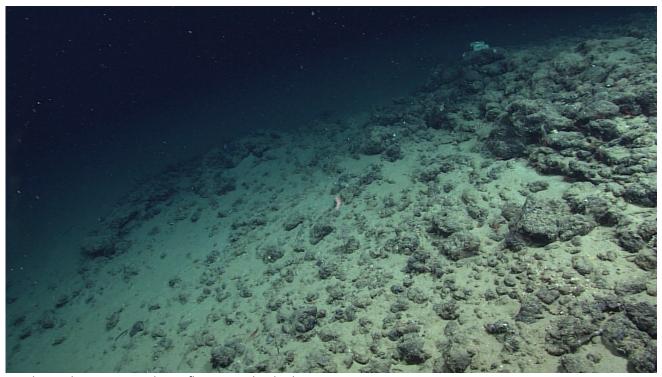


Rocky outcrop at the second target, with an aggregation of fish and tube anemones.





Tube anemones on what might be fabric and an oddly shaped square object.



Another rocky outcrop on the seafloor, near the third target.





Pink frogmouth.



A crinoid growing on something that might have been ferrous.

# **Samples Collected**

No samples were collected due to this being a UCH dive.



### **Scientists Involved**

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